

Docket No. RD28011-2

REMARKS

Claims 1-4, 6, 9-28, and 30-33 were pending in the present application. Applicants appreciate the indication that Claims 24-28 and 30-33 currently stand allowed.

Claims 1, 9, and 23 have been amended, and Claim 22 has been canceled, leaving Claims 1-4, 6, 9-21, 23-28, and 30-33 for consideration in the present amendment. Support for the amendment to Claims 1 and 23 can be found on page 6, line 26 to page 7, line 19. Dependent Claim 9 has been amended and rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitations found in the base claim. No new matter has been entered by any of these amendments.

It is believed the amendments made herein may be properly entered at this time, i.e., after final rejection, because the amendments do not require a new search or raise new issues and they reduce issues for appeal. Reconsideration and allowance of all pending claims is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Objections

Claims 9-16 and 22 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being of improper dependent form for allegedly failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. In particular, the Office Action alleges that Claims 9 and 22 broadens the limitations of Claim 1.

Claim 22 has been canceled and Claim 9 has been amended and rewritten in independent form. In view of the foregoing, the objection has been rendered moot and is requested to be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 1-4, 6, and, 17-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, for failing to comply with the written description requirement. Applicants respectfully traverse.

The rejection applied to Claims 1-4, 6, and, 17-23 has been rendered moot in view of the amendments to the respective independent claims. In view of the foregoing, Applicants request that the rejection be withdrawn.

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Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-4, 6, and 17-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Applicants respectfully traverse.

The rejection applied to Claims 1-4, 6, and 17-23 has been rendered moot in view of the amendments to the respective independent claims. In view of the foregoing, Applicants request that the rejection be withdrawn.

It is believed that the foregoing amendments and remarks fully comply with the Office Action and that the claims herein should now be allowable to Applicants. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance is requested.

If there are any additional charges with respect to this Amendment or otherwise, please charge them to Deposit Account No. 06-1130 maintained by Applicant's attorneys.

Respectfully submitted,

CANTOR COLBURN LLP

By


Peter R. Hagerly
Registration No. 42,618

Date: September 10, 2004
CANTOR COLBURN LLP
55 Griffin Road South
Bloomfield, CT 06002
Telephone (860) 286-2929
Facsimile (860) 286-0115
Customer No.: 23413